

April 1, 1969

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

The attached advises that Judge W. Preston Battle, Criminal Court, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee, was found dead in his office on evening of 3-31-69.

According to the Memphis Police Department, there is no indication of foul play. Indications are that Judge Battle died from natural causes.

Judge Battle presided over court proceedings of James Earl Ray in which Ray received a 99-year sentence on state charge of murder.

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